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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Hitoshi MATSUMOTO *et al.*

Serial Number: 10/019,402

Filed: December 28, 2001

For: COMPOSITIONS FOR FOODS, PROCESS
FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AND
FUNCTIONAL FOODS AND DRINKS
CONTAINING THE SAME

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER
37 CFR §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 21, 2002

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 applicant hereby notifies the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO-1449 form and which the Examiner may deem relevant to the patentability of the claims in the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

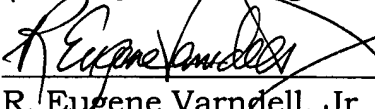
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of an Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for the listed foreign language documents, an English translation is attached to each of the two documents from the Shokuhin Kaihatsu.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee therefor, as well as any deficiency in the payment of the required fee(s) or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
VARNDELL & VARNDELL, PLLC
(Formerly Varndell Legal Group)



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